



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

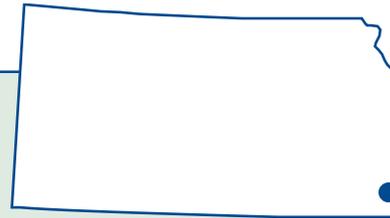
Pittsburg, KS

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Pittsburg was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in southeastern Kansas, Pittsburg (population 19,243) dates back to the late 1800s, when it was a coal mining town. As mining operations shut down and related industries left the area, well-paying jobs were lost and the operations left scarred lands and waste. The region is still struggling to replace jobs, and Pittsburg's unemployment rate is higher than the state average. More than 16 percent of the population lives below the poverty level. Thousands of acres of mined land in the region remain contaminated from former mining and smelting operations. Commercial development often is restricted by contamination and the cost of cleanup. After brownfields are assessed, the city will move forward with plans to clean up and redevelop them for



Assessment Grant

New
2006

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Pittsburg for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct Phase I and II environmental site assessments at the former Weir City Zinc/All-Quip Property, which is contaminated by metals. Grant funds also will be used to develop cleanup and reuse plans and to support community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 7 Brownfields Team
800-223-0425

<http://www.epa.gov/Region7/citizens/brownfields/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Pittsburg, KS
620-231-4100

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

commercial and residential use. Brownfields redevelopment is expected to remove potential health threats, discourage development on greenspace in the city, create jobs, increase tax revenues, and improve the city's image.